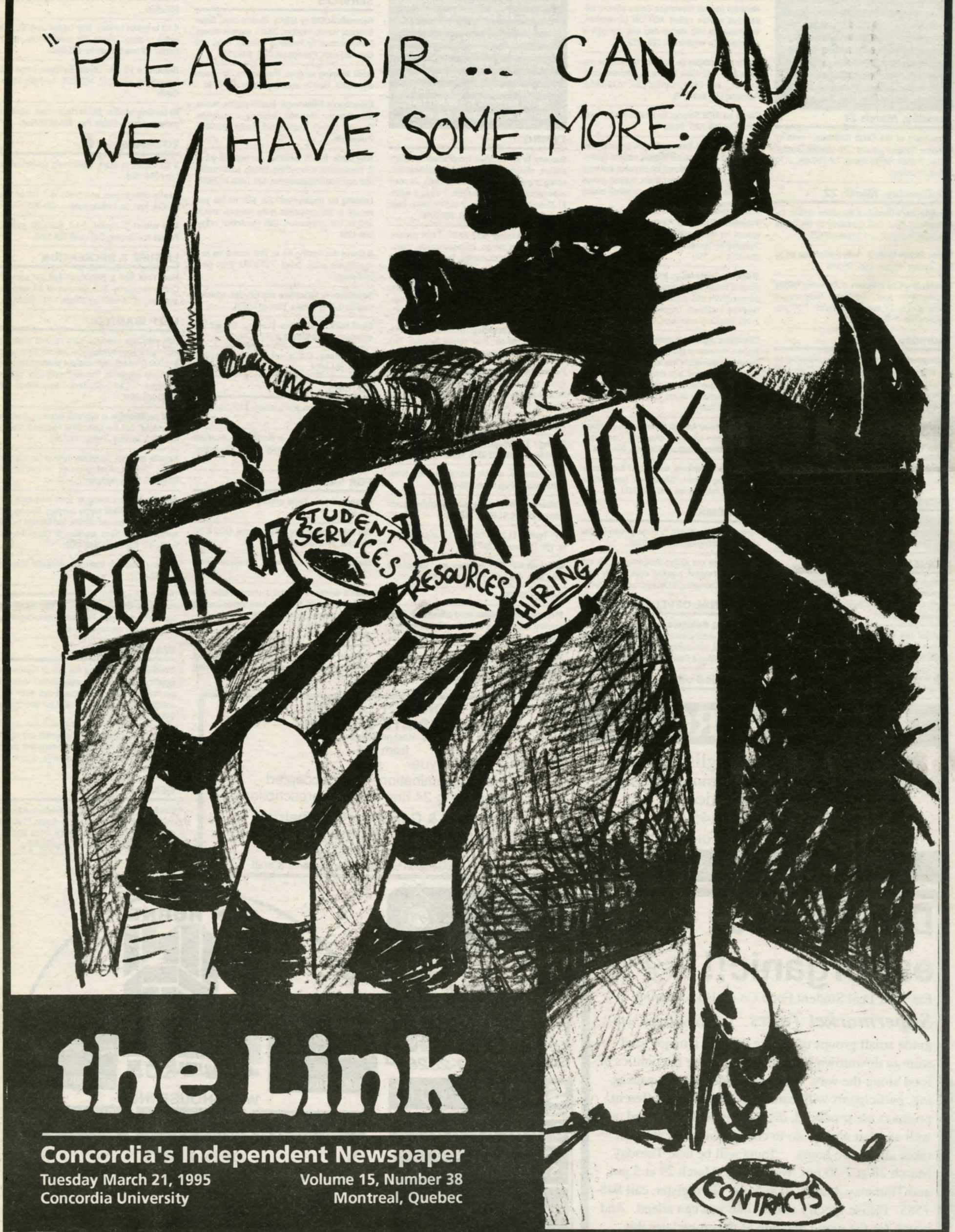

the Link

Concordia's Independent Newspaper

Tuesday March 21, 1995 — Volume 15, Number 38

Concordia University — Montreal, Quebec

Cover by Jonathan de Swaaf

AGENDA

The Agenda is a free service to publicize events of interest to the Concordia community. Priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office, room H-649 in the Hall building, or mail it, to *the Link*–Agenda. Deadlines are 4pm, Friday for Tuesday issues, and 4 pm Wednesday for Friday issues.

Tuesday, March 21

"Sanctuary of the Earth Goddess," read by Katherine Stenger Frey and "The Ultimate Garden" read by Patricia Renee Ewing. 12-1:30 pm, 2170 Bishop St, Lounge.

Wednesday, March 22

Flooding Job's Garden, a discussion session co-ordinated by Chris Trott sponsored by the Centre for Native Education. 12-1:30 pm, LB-677.

Motion Picture Media & Time, a discussion led by Prof. Richard Hancox. 4 pm, BR-209.

Co-operatives as a Means of Achieving Quality Employment and Socially Responsible Corporations, an open discussion. 7:30 pm, Channing Hall, 3145 Simpson.

Thursday, March 23

Endangered Reptiles in Quebec, a workshop on the environment featuring David Galbraith, Executive Director for the Granby Centre for Endangered Reptiles. 6:30 pm, GSA Lounge, 2030 Mackay.

Friday, March 24

Mediamatic, a benefit party for Mediatribe, the Communications Studies Journal with Public Enema and DJ T'cha. $4 in adv; $5 at door. Tickets available: Bryan Building and Café X.

Tuesday March 28

Nutrition Workshop sponsored by Health Services focusing on getting the most out of a vegetarian diet. 12-1:30 pm, H-653.

WOMEN

Women who are/ have been in abusive relationships with men: discussion & support group begins March 4, 1-3 pm at the Concordia Women's Centre. Information: 848-7431.

Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Coming Out/ Support Group (18 to 25 yrs). Meets every second Wednesday. Info: Project 10, 989-4585 (1 to 5 pm).

SOS Violence conjugale. 24 hour crisis intervention and shelter referral. 873-9010.

Mouvement contre le viol: 842-5040.

24 Hour Hotline & Crisis Line, Montreal Sexual Assault Centre, 934-4504.

Montréal Assault Prevention Centre offers a self-defense course called ACTION for women. Techniques to help women deal with any type of aggression. To register call: 284-1212.

Centre des femmes de Montréal: Services de première ligne, 842-4780; Service aux femmes immigrantes, 842-0814; Option'Elle, 842-6652; Formation'Elle, 842-4776.

Centre for AIDS Services for Women needs volunteers. Info: 989-7997, Basia.

Montreal Sexual Assault Centre provides free counselling and emotional support, medical assessment and treatment, information on police and court procedures, court accompaniment, support groups for survivors and public education on sexual assault issues. Info: 934-4504.

Volunteers Needed for Parathèse, a unique playground for immigrant mothers & their children. Tuesday or Thursday 1-4:15 pm. Info: Cyndy, 934-0354, ext. 354.

Women's Spirituality: Irrepressible Spirit A series of videos and discussions exploring women's perspectives and experiences within various religious traditions. Tuesdays from 4:15-6 pm, Z-105. Info: Daryl Lynn Ross, 848-3585.

Committee Against Human Life International: Women interested in planning a protest against the Montreal conference of this racist, anti-Muslim, anti-semitic, homophobic, anti-choice organization can leave messages for the committee against Human Life International at the Concordia Women's Centre, 848-7431.

Montreal Sexual Assault Centre needs volunteers for its 24 hour telephone crisis line. Concerned, bilingual women should call 934-4504, 934-0354.

Big Gals & Goddesses, wanna talk? A discussion group for big women . Whether you wear dresses or overalls, nylons or not. Info: 848-7431.

ACADEMIC

Free tutoring available to students who fail the University Writing test. Info: 848-2320.

Term Papers and written assignments? We can help you get started, organize ideas, identify problem areas. Counselling & Development: 848-3545.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Counselling Workshops on career and educational planning. Also, private & confidential counselling for personal, educational & vocational concerns. Info: Counselling & Development, 848-3545/3555.

continued on page 4

CLASSIFIED ADS

Rates: 20¢ per word for Concordia Arts & Science and Fine Arts undergraduate students; 25¢ per word for all others (plus applicable taxes). Deadlines are 4pm Friday for Tuesday issues, 4pm Wednesday for Friday issues. Classified advertising must be purchased in our offices in room H-649. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. Ads must be accompanied by full payment. We do NOT take classified ads by phone, fax, or mail.

TYPING

Success to all students! WordPerfect 5.1. Term papers, résumés, access forms, applications, editing of grammar, transcription of tapes. 24 years experience—both languages, 7 days a week. $1.75/double-spaced page. 2 streets away, Peel. Paulette or Roxanne, 288-9638, 288-0016.

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TUTORS

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Sharp Electronic Calculators. Giveaway prices. 735-8645, Dan.

Child's dresser with hutch & changing table; mattress, box spring & frame; Aiwa stereo/cassette deck and wedding gown. 486-4198.

FOR RENT

Lofts in Old Montreal, close to Metro Victoria. Heated, sprinklered, high ceilings, low rent. 861-3787.

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1 1/2 to sublet from May 1st to June 31, with option to lease. Close to school. $375/ month, all inclusive. 939-2936.

4 1/2 to sublet between May 1st and June 31, with option to lease. Duluth and Hotel-de-Ville. $560/ month, 1/3 heat subsidized. 845-9783.

Beautiful 4 1/2 near Loyola. Equipped, fridge and stove, $395, 486-4077, 462-9370. Available immediately.

Recording studio, $8/ hr+technician, band or package deals available. Pag: 896-5218, Rod.

TO SHARE

5 1/2 duplex to share. $250/month (all-inclusive). Larry 364-1968.

Really cheap room with study in 7 1/2 on the plateau. April 1st. Lesbian positive. 499-0001.

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Paid participation in hypnosis research. If you're interested, call the Concordia Hypnosis Lab at 848-2213. Monday - Friday, 12-2 pm.

Female models, actresses needed for a photo shoot. Professional pictures in exchange. 633-8605. Leave message.

Attn: Students! Looking for some extra cash during exams??? Office supply company offering part time work until the end of term, and full time for the summer. Office hours are Mon. to Thurs. 9-4 and Friday 9-2. Call Cindy. 849-4200.

Summer jobs with International Health/ Nutrition Co. 856-4717.

Urgent: 1 Production Assistant & 2 actors (female and male) for student video. (2 day shoot). No experience necessary. Few lines. Starts beginning of April. Leave message, 842-6036.

WANTED

Interested in exploring the role of hypnosis in reports of UFO abduction experiences? Volunteer participants, willing to spend two hour-long sessions, are requested to contact our laboratory at 848-2213.

Looking for bass player who is humble and able to add ideas to our band. We have many fine songs. Serious callers only, call evenings, 6 to 9 pm, 369-4013.

GENERAL

Elections: QPIRG Board of Directors. Advance polling: Monday, March 20, 1-5 pm. Tuesday, March 21, 1-5 pm. QPIRG office, 2130 Mackay. Polling: March 22, 7 pm, H-110, Hall Building.

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Fine arts technician shut out of job

by Jennifer Ditchburn

Monique Deschamps makes molds. Using plaster, concrete, rubber and cement, she made molds of objects and live models. And according to students and her supervisor in Concordia's Fine Arts department, Deschamps was damn good at it.

Deschamps lost her job as technician in the sculpture, ceramics and fibres department this January, after working for the university for eight years. She had taken a leave of absence for the fall semester because of an illness, with the intention of returning the following term. But when 1995 rolled around, the university informed her that the male technician that had replaced her for four months was there to stay.

photo by Julien Saucier

Monique Deschamps worked at Concordia for 8 years

Deschamps and her supervisor, Mark Prent, are baffled by the shutout. Prent sent letters about Deschamps to the chair of the department, Andrew Dutkewych, recommending that she be rehired in January. As far as they knew, Deschamps would return to her job. It had worked that way for eight years.

"Not many people are more qualified than me in moldmaking, and in my opinion, Monique was an exceptional moldmaker and the university was lucky to have her," Prent said.

In December, Prent had been informed by chair Dutkewych that her position may fall victim to budget cuts, and that the final decision on the job would come in mid-January. But on the first day the university was open, the university hired the replacement technician without informing Prent or Deschamps.

"I didn't have any idea this would happen...even though the first day the school was open was a Wednesday, and I never work on Wednesday, they had the nerve to say I lost the job because I didn't show up for work. I mean, they didn't even post the job in the first place, and as far as we knew it was still in limbo," Deschamps said.

Deschamps, now living on UI, has two grievance against the university through the technicians union to which she pays dues. Both were rejected, on the basis that her job did not qualify as a "position," since she was a seasonal employee who worked on a renewable contract. Therefore, she had "no guarantee of the renewal or existence" of her job, according to a letter signed by Dukewych.

But technicians' union president Rick Bisaillon says that working for eight years consecutively constitutes a "position." He says that her situation is just another example of how part-timers at the university are undervalued.

"Personally, I don't think the rejection of the grievance holds weight. Under the collective agreement, Monique had done nothing to merit losing seniority, and there is nothing in the contract that says it doesn't apply to temporary employees," Bisaillon said.

Deschamps and the union are also arguing that the Fine Arts department ignored the university's Employment Equity policy, which aims to advance women and other under-represented groups. Deschamps was the only woman technician in the molding and casting area.

"The present collective agreement does not have an article on employment equity [as the faculty contract does], but it does ensure equitable and just working conditions. This was not just," Bisaillon said.

The case is now going to arbitration, which can take up to eight months. Both Prent and Deschamps are shocked at the university's attitude.

"They (administrators) obviously don't feel answerable to Monique or myself or anybody else. Technicians really know what the students' needs are because we work with them," Prent said. "It just doesn't follow any logic. They're going to have to think up some sort of game plan to explain how they got rid of Monique."

"It stinks," said Deschamps. "I lost the faith I had in the institution."

Chair of sculpture, ceramics and fibres department Andrew Dukewych would not comment on the case, and dean of Fine Arts Christopher Jackson could not be reached for comment.

Rector candidates predict tuition hikes

by Paul Hainsworth

Concordia's future well-being will require more bang for its students' buck, and maybe a few more bucks to bang with, say some candidates for rector.

Speaking at a joint meeting of the Board of Governors and Senate yesterday, the three finalists in Concordia's search for a new leader stressed the need to minimize expenditures and maximize profits.

"I think there's room for tuition fees to go up," said Dr. Donald N. Baker, currently vice-president academic of Wilfred Laurier University in Ontario.

Concordia has to slash $10 million from its operating budget next year, $5 million due to funding cuts from the Quebec government. The remainder is a result of reduced enrollment and the university's heavy debt.

Baker suggested that an average tuition increase of $277 per student per year would offset provincial cuts. "Is that an insurmountable increase to maintain Concordia's program diversity and services provided?" he asked.

He pointed out that full-time undergraduate tuition at Concordia—which is currently about $1500—is only about half of Ontario fees, which range between $2600 and $3000.

When answering questions, candidate Dr. Claire McNicholl, vice-rector public affairs at Université de Montréal echoed similar sentiments.

"I'm afraid the tuition fee issue will be an issue in the coming years and we will have to come to grips with it."

McNicholl suggested that one safety mechanism for students could be the federal government's proposed income-contingent loans, in which repayment is based on one's income. "It seems to work in other countries like Australia, so it could be an alternative to solve the problem," she said.

Dr. Frederick Lowy, director of the Centre for Bioethics at University of Toronto, did not address tuition hikes but suggested other revenue-generating possibilities.

"Active efforts must be taken to recruit good students, particularly graduate students," he said. Graduate students are attractive to a university because they draw more government funding than an undergraduate.

No Santa to save us

Although Concordia stands to lose $10 million this year, $35 to $50 million in provincial funding will be cut over the next five years.

The candidates outlined their strategies for re-defining the university.

"There is no Santa Claus, no one to bail us out," said Baker. He suggested increasing enrollments of foreign students and non-credit courses, and more actively seeking out research grants and alumni donations.

In describing how each faculty will face the cuts, all three candidates used words like "openness," "dialogue," "transparency" and "open discussion."

Faculties will have to determine which programmes to pare down, and some may disappear altogether.

"There are hard times ahead, I believe we can sit down together and have everybody involved," said McNicoll. "It's possible to bring people to feel they have their fair share of cuts."

That sentiment was not entirely felt by Concordia University Faculty Association president Bill Knitter. "There's a lack of faith in this institution in the 'We're all in this together' attitude. There's territorial self-interest."

Lowy pointed out that although not everyone will be satisfied with the outcome, "if there's openness, adequate consultation, one can at least guarantee a process that will satisfy everyone."

Employment equity policy works, sometimes...

"The University shall promote the full participation and advancement of qualified candidates from groups which have traditionally under-represented, especially women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with disabilities..."
—Employment Equity Policy, 1993.

When Ulrike de Brentani started in the Commerce and Administration department, she was the only woman in the department. Until just recently, only five per cent of female instructors in Commerce had tenure. Yesterday, de Brentani asked candidates for rector if they would remain committed to hiring qualified women, even when times were financially tough.

"It's all about having a program of employment equity and having an attitude that you want to maintain. Because in a department you can always get around the criteria if you want," she said.

With the university's newest round of budget cuts, women run the greatest risk of getting chopped. Jobs which have the least job security, such as part-time or contract work, are usually filled by women.

"One of the things that happens with downsizing is that social progress takes a step backwards. Underlying this is the basic belief that men have careers and women have jobs. When the crunch comes, you have to go back to what 'really matter': that men are the breadwinners," de Brentani said.

Other departments in the university have improved their ratios of male and female employees, while others, like Engineering and Computer Science, remain dismally low. In Engineering, there is only one female technician, who has been waiting for a permanent position to open for her for the past decade.

In the case of Monique Deschamps, an eight-year seasonal employee who lost her job to a man after she took time off for illness, the university's employment equity policy left her high and dry. Despite the fact that Deschamps was more qualified than the male candidate, and that she was the only female technician in her department, the policy could not be applied to her.

Maureen Habib, employment equity coordinator for the university, explains that the policy is a "broad statement of principles," which depends on the collective agreements of the different employees on campus. Habib herself cannot enforce the policy, or act as anybody's advocate.

"You have to have a combination of things—a university-wide policy, articles in collective agreements, but then you've got to have people who do the hiring to be open and prepared to give these jobs," Habib said.

The faculty union has an employment equity clause entrenched in its collective agreement, but the technicians union—of which Monique Deschamps is a member—does not.

Technician's union president Rich Bisaillon says he's disappointed in the university's weak equity policy.

"We just don't have good equity across the board. And words are cheap. They're only as good as their application. When the money crunch comes on, employment equity just goes out the door," Bisaillon said. "The policy just doesn't have any teeth."

—Jennifer Ditchburn

AGENDA

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sex and Spirit Collective a social justice group attempting to heal the divisions between our sexual and spiritual identities. Thursdays 4-6 pm, 2090 Mackay.

Self-Knowing & Communication, a three-part afternoon workshop series to explore self-understanding, giving and receiving feedback, conflict styles an communication skills (series started Feb. 10). For registration and Information, call Daryl Lynn Ross, 848-3585.

Sign-language courses at the Montreal Deaf Community Centre. Placement tests are required. 65 de Castelnau. Info: TTY: 279-8535.

Parents Without Custody is a support group for separated or divorced parents without custody of their children. Call Nancy Montgomery,937-5351, local 48 to register.

Peer Helpers is a free, confidential listening service of students helping students. 2090 Mackay St. Info: 848-2859.

Start Keeping a Budget: Financial Aid & Awards offers personal budgeting information sessions on Mondays at 3 pm & Tuesdays at 11am. Please sign up in advance in the Financial Aid office LB -085.

Questioning your sexual orientation? Coming Out support group for men, confidential and friendly atmosphere. Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, 2090 Mackay, Room 02. For information or individual support call the Peer Helper Centre, 848-2859.

"Living On My Own" a program for people planning to live on their own for the first time. Info: Bruce, Head & Hands: 481-0277 or 481-3643.

Meditation: A Tool For Self-Knowledge. These sessions will draw upon various traditions and each will include a "quiet sitting". Wednesdays 12-1 pm, Annex Z. Info: Daryl Ross, 848-3585.

Prison Visit Program: An eight-week program , in which students visit inmates at Archambault Prison. Participants should call to speak with a chaplain before entering program, Peter Coté, 848-3586, Matti Terho, 848-3590

Sign up now for workshops on communication skills, career & life planning, building relationships, study skills, loss and grieving support groups etc. For information, call Counselling & Development, 848-3545/3555.

Writers, graphic artists, photographers, editors and rabble rousers wanted. The Link. H-649. It's not just a career; it's an adventure. 848-7405.

HEALTH

Women and safer sex: A series of two-hour workshops to explore some of the issues that affect our choices about safer sex, including self-esteem, sexuality, and body image. Info: 848-7431.

Non-Nominal HIV Testing. The request for the test as well as the result are known only to your doctor. Info: Health Services, 848-3565, 848-3575.

Circumcision Info-Resource Centre provides information regarding non-religious circumcision & non-surgical foreskin restoration. Info: 848-9761.

GENERAL

Divers Cité, Montreal's annual lesbian & gay pride festival,which is taking pace August 2nd to 4th this summer, is producing a written programme to highlight this year's events. Anyone interested in contributing articles between 250 and 500 words should contact us at 285-4011.

Compeer Montreal, a community service which provides friendship and support to people with mental health problems, is recruiting volunteers 18 years or older to provide re-integration services to persons with mental illnesses. Info: 489-1007.

Tel-Aide needs volunteers to staff its telephone crisis line for people in distress. The line operates 24 hours a day, lending a sympathetic ear to Montrealers who are lonely, abused, out of work, emotionally scarred or suicidal. Info: 935-1105.

Outreach Experience: participants will work with children, teens, the poor or the sick. The activity and amount of time will depend on your interests and abilities. Information: Michelina Bertone SSA, 848-3591.

Meals On Wheels Program is seeking volunteers to assist in preparing and delivering home cooked meals for seniors living independently at home. Info: Rona 937-9471, ext. 155.

Yellow Door Elderly Project needs volunteers to accompany seniors to appointments. Also looking for dog walkers who can assist seniors in the McGill Ghetto. Info: 398-6243.

STUDENT CLUBS

Indigenous Peoples International, a native solidarity group on campus meets every Wednesday, 7 pm, P-203. Info: 848-7443.

Concordia Queer Collective holds weekly meetings on Fridays at 5:30 pm in P-102. Information: 848-7414.

Latin American Students Organization invites all interested students to visit their offices. 2010 Mackay, Rm. 02. Info: 848-3532.

International Socialists Students' Association: If you'd like to become a member, or want information about meetings, actions, etc. Contact: 521-1983.

Concordia Outdoors Club's new office hours are Fridays between 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm.

Concordia Chemistry & Biochemistry Students Assoc. is back and invites students to take advantage of its many new services. 2020 Mackay,Rm. 306 or call 848-7417.

Extra-rated Radio Show seeks spoken word/ poetry/ opinion submissions to read on air. Please drop them off at the station addressed to Rae. Information: 931-1880, 933-1418. No limits.

Ham Radio Meetings every Tuesday. Personal two-way radio, television, UHF/VHF, satellite and computer communications by ham radio. All Welcome. 7 to 9 pm, H-644-1. Info: 848-7421

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Potholes need more than band-aid

by Shira Katz

A $5 million dollar cut to road repair is putting safety on the backburner, Montreal's road warrior's say.

According to Louis Arseneault, Communications Officer for the Canadian Automobile Association of Quebec, the pothole situation in Montreal is having an impact on road safety and on car repairs.

"When there are potholes all over the streets, it means the cars are zigzagging to avoid them. It causes a risk for road safety to the cyclists and even the pedestrians," he said.

Arseneault added that vehicles are damaged easily when they collide with the surface of the road, leading to repair costs and higher insurance.

"If there are better ways than putting asphalts in the holes, we encourage them to study them," he said. "We're observing how the city is resolving the problem we might take action if the situation convinces us that maintenance is not how it should be."

A scientific solution

Engineers agree and say that there's a scientific solution to road repair, that the city has completely overlooked.

"Patchwork does not improve the road," said Dr. Bala Ashtakala, a Civil Engineering professor at Concordia University,

The cause of the problem is Montreal's soil, which has a large amount of expansive clays underneath the pavement, a natural material which pushes the pavement surface up when water gets in, causing cracks. Cracks are also formed from changing weather conditions and traffic movement.

Ashtakala explained that potholes are formed when water and salt enter these cracks in the road. Salt and water chemically react with the road surface material called "bitumen" (an asphalt cement made of stones and gravel), causing the stones to come out.

"My observation is that the City of Montreal should spend a lot more money on maintenance. They don't have to redo the roads, they can resurface the top one inch. Re-surfacing can last 2-3 years and can make a big improvement, and it is inexpensive," he explained. "They should maintain the roads in good condition, without cracks and potholes for the users' safety and comfort."

He said that the solution is to mix the bitumen with additives, a combination that can withstand cracks much better. He explained that good materials are elastic; they bend but they do not crack.

"In Britain, in other places in Europe and in Scandinavian countries, with similar weather conditions as Canada, they use better materials and have better road conditions," he added.

Cyclists getting overlooked

Cyclists, on the other hand, want a budget for themselves.

Some bikers say that the city should make the improvement of biking conditions in Montreal a spending priority instead of concentrating on road maintenance.

"The money should be spent on municipal bicycle parking and on the installation of heated bus shelters," said "anti-cars" Robert Silverman, a founder of Monde a Bicyclette, a bicycle lobby group.

"We want a just redistribution of the space," he stressed, "Like bus lanes and bike lanes on main streets."

Yves Gagné, a bike courier who covers roughly 300 km per week, was thrown off his bike last October due to a sewer that had not been raised to the street level on René-Levesque.

"I'd rather see drivers who are more aware of bikers than streets repaired but it would be great to have both," he said.

Joel Hampson, an Engineering student at Concordia, cites Mount-

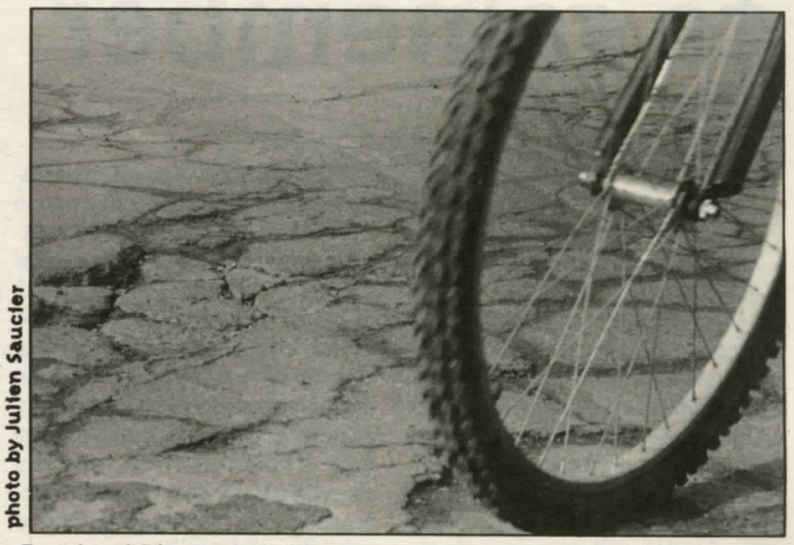


photo by Julien Saucier

Royal and Pine as a "fairly nasty area" on his daily route to school. He said that the road design in Montreal is totally geared for cars.

"In terms of the road situation, making Montreal a less auto-traffic city would be the number one priority to fixing what I face on the road," he said.

John Lee, a bike courier for Canbec, cites Old Montreal as the worst area for potholes because of the cobblestones. As a mountain biker, he says he tolerates it but the danger is trying to go around them while a car comes up close behind. He said he is upset when they half-fix it.

"They'll throw some asphalt on it, but a few months later the road will get worse," he said. "I'd like to see more priority for bikers; bike paths, more recognition for the bikes."

Seniors protest cuts to low-income housing

by Danny Chan

Senior citizen groups are fighting a City of Montreal decision to reduce the number of low-income housing for seniors. The Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) decided last July to change the classification of 15 seniors' homes into non-seniors' homes. The decision was based on a small number of seniors applying for housing with the OMHM.

Senior citizen groups are angry because the cutbacks would reduce the number of housing units available to seniors by 1,032 in Montreal.

At a meeting last Thursday, the OMHM decided three of the 15 apartment buildings will remain seniors citizens' homes. Five buildings will be changed to non-seniors residences. They are located in Little Burgundy and Pointe St. Charles with declining seniors populations.

That leaves seven buildings which have won a one-year moratorium and the OMHM will decide in a year whether there are enough seniors to justify keeping the buildings available to them.

The OMHM allocates subsidized housing based on the number of applicants. Statistics show the number of senior applicants declined, so the OMHM reduced the number of housing units for seniors.

But community leaders say the figures are misleading because many seniors have difficulty completing the forms necessary for obtaining subsidized housing.

"Some people could use some help. They don't know how to do it so they don't apply," Montreal city councillor Sam Boskey said.

Some of the questions asked by the OMHM on the four-page application include declarations of owned assets, including bank accounts, term deposits, investments, savings bonds, shares, RRSP, and property values.

"Forms intimidate them," said Doris Burns of the NDG Senior Citizens' Council. "We will help people get over that hump so they can get on the waiting list."

An NDG campaign has been started to let seniors know there are nearly 500 low-rent apartments available to them and to encourage them to put their names on waiting lists for those units. Posters and leaflets are being distributed throughout stores and community centres in NDG to raise awareness among seniors. Volunteers are prepared to help seniors fill out the necessary documents. Community leaders hope a show of numbers from senior citizens will convince the city to let the buildings remain as seniors' homes.

"We decided one of the most important things we had to do was get more people on the list," said Jason Hughes, a volunteer with the NDG Community Council.

Among NDG's population of 60,000, at least 25 per cent are age 55 or over and demographics show the number of seniors will increase. Also, the definition of a senior has recently been changed from age 60 and over to 55 and over, increasing the population that qualifies as seniors. Boskey said between 4,000 and 5,000 NDG seniors are eligible for low-income housing but have not signed up.

Habitations Saint-Raymond is one seniors' home whose fate is still pending. Situated on Upper Lachine Road in NDG, it contains 100 units and community leaders are adament about keeping it open.

"The only way we can maintain this building is if we have a lot of people on the list," Boskey said.

Applications for subsidized housing must be renewed annually and Boskey said this has also caused the waiting list to dwindle as low as 10 seniors at one point in the last year.

Briefly

Budget cuts

Concordia may suffer massive budget cuts next year and as a result student services could face some serious cutbacks.

A report from the Office of the Rector, entitled *Dealing with the Cuts: Budget Measures for 1995-96*, contains an outline of proposed budget cuts. It states that the $250,000 subsidy to student services could be phased out over the next two years.

"Everybody's concerned," said Robby Kirk, a supervisor at Computing Services "It's still too early to know what's going to happen. But we already have a hiring freeze here."

Emily Paradis, co-ordinator of the Women's Centre, is concerned that the cuts will primarily affect "special needs" students such as part-time students, working students and single mothers.

"Concordia is a special university," she said. "It reflects a diversity of class and background. Student services act as a safety net to those students who need them."

"It's really hard to say what will happen," said Recreation co-ordinator Rick Taweel. "I think it would be a big mistake if they cut back on Recreation. Recreation is serving students, primarily, and our prices are reasonable compared to other fitness clubs. It's important that students have a recreational outlet that's affordable for them."

Student services staff will find out exactly how hard they will be hit on May 17, when the Board of Governors is expected to approve the 1995-96 operating budget.

– Heather McGuffin

Ray Hall rips down election posters

A member of the CSU's Council of Representatives has accused presidential candidate Raymond Hall of tearing down non-partisan election posters.

Steven Zacharius was postering around the Hall Building on Sunday when he saw Hall tear down about 50 of the posters encouraging students to get out and vote.

"He said he apologized and said he was very sorry but he had had a terrible afternoon," said Zacharius, whose posters don't promote any candidate.

Hall explained that he put up about a dozen posters around the Hall Building on Sunday morning before marching in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

But he says that when he returned after the parade, they were gone. "I was pissed off, that all my posters were covered up or they were ripped down," he said. "I didn't even know whose they were."

—Paul Hainsworth

Armenians ask Ottawa to remember

by Carol McQueen

"Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians? The world believes in success only."
—Adolf Hitler

When Hitler thought about exterminating the Jews from Europe, he was convinced that the international community would not intervene. The Young Turks and the Committee of Union and Progress had annihilated a million and a half Armenians through massacre and deportation in 1915 with impunity. In the same way, Hitler thought he could get away with exterminating the Jewish population of Europe.

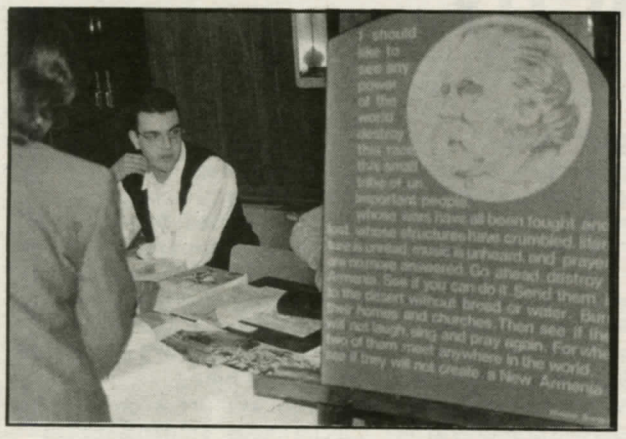
Armenians living in Montreal and across Canada are determined to not let that lack of memory inspire any new genocides. As the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide approaches, they are preparing to remind Canadians and the Canadian government that such atrocities did occur and need to be officially acknowledged in order to prevent their recurrence.

Searching for Recognition

The Armenian Youth Organization of Canada is organizing a march from Montreal to Ottawa to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the 1915 genocide. From April 21 to 24, Armenians and anyone who wishes to join them will be carrying signatures to Ottawa. They want the federal government to officially acknowledge that a million and a half Armenians were brutally slaughtered by the Ottoman Empire's Young Turk regime, and to publicly condemn it.

"We are trying to raise awareness in the public that such an event did happen," said Alfred Rostamloo, a member of Concordia's Armenian Students Association.

"The purpose of this walkathon is to get the media's attention, to get Canadians to commemorate with us and remind them of this event," said Garine Hovsepian, who is helping to plan the event as a member of the Armenian Youth Organization of Canada. "And, most importantly, to get the Canadian government, traditionally a defender of human rights, to recognize and condemn this genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire."



Hovsepian believes that, if Canada and other countries publicly decry this inhumane act, then the present Turkish government will be pressured into apologizing for the behaviour of its Ottoman ancestor and into providing compensation in the form of land.

"We are looking for moral satisfaction first of all," she said. "The Turkish government should admit to the genocide of 1915 and excuse itself in the same manner that the Germans apologized to the Jews."

"We would also like political compensation through some kind of peace settlement," Hovsepian added. "This would include land."

Apo Niziblian, who also sits on the organizing committee, talks about Armenia's constant reductions in size since the medieval period.

"In 301, we became the first Christian nation. Since then we have been attacked from all sides," said

continued on page 10

Victims of Armenian genocide

> "I should like to see any power of the world destroy this race, this small tribe of unimportant people, whose wars have all been fought and lost, whose structures have crumbled, literature is unread, music is unheard, and prayers are no more answered. Go ahead, destroy Armenia. See if you can do it. Send them into the desert without bread or water. Burn their homes and churches. Then see if they will not laugh, sing and pray again. For when two of them meet anywhere in the world, see if they will not create a new Armenia."
>
> —William Saroyan, Armenian-American writer.

A history of oppression

Armenians lived under Ottoman rule for over 600 years. During this time, they suffered persecution and discrimination. Only at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th did this persecution turn into centrally-instigated massacres and ultimately genocide.

1894-1896

300,000 Armenians massacred during the reign of Sultan Abdul-Hamid II.

1908

Young Turks overthrow the Sultan, calling for national unity and preaching toleration

1909

Within a year of ruthlessly gaining power, the Young Turk regime massacred 30,000 Armenians in the area of Adana.

1915
April 24

First night of the genocide against the Armenians.

In the dark of night, Turkish gendarmes knocked on the doors of some three hundred unsuspecting victims, aroused them from their sleep and led them away from their homes and their families, never to be seen again. These men represented the cream of the Armenian intellectuals—writers, poets, journalists, clergymen, artists, professionals and businessmen.

1915-1923

1.5 million Armenians massacred, and more than 500,000 exiled from the Ottoman Empire.

Today fewer than 40,000 declared Armenians remain in Turkey, mostly in Istanbul and Western Turkey.

Victims of Armenian genocide

Comment

Truth on our side

by Norair Sitrak

My first exposure to the Armenian genocide was at the age of six. I was in search of my identity. My Greek schoolmates came from Greece, my Canadian schoolmates were from here in Quebec, and my Arab schoolmates were born in Arab countries. I asked my mother, "But why do my Armenian friends, schoolmates and I come from different parts of the Middle East and not from Armenia?"

At first, my mother did not want to answer my questions, and told me that one day she would explain. However, I was a highly persistent, inquisitive child and soon my mother gave in. She explained to me that the Armenians are a great people with many accomplishments. We were the first nation to accept Christianity. We had great things, a developed language, philosophies, poets, musicians, and business. But, she said, that for many centuries we were treated as second-class citizens by the Turks, and that in 1915 we were made to leave our homes, that we were massacred. She spared me the gory details that I was to read of later.

Armenians were forced to flee to neighboring Arab countries where we were accepted and given a chance to rebuild our lives. Over 1.5 million Armenians never made it.

Over the years, I have read numerous books on the Armenian genocide and have learned a great deal. The definite consensus among academics is that the Turks planned the systematic extermination of the Armenian people. The manner in which this extermination was carried out is horrendous. Forced marches without food or water, butchery, rape and other unspeakable methods. My generation, the third since the genocide, still feels the pain, anger and sorrow.

April 25, 1995 will mark the 80th commemoration of the Armenian genocide, the first of the twentieth century. Turkey has not yet been made to answer for its crimes against humanity. Over the last 80 years, Turkey has attempted to rewrite history, has desecrated Armenian churches, and has attempted to portray Armenians as terrorists. Today, Turkey is one of the major violators of human rights in the world, as can be seen by their treatment of the Kurds. Turkey must not be allowed to use its perceived strategic importance in exchange for human rights abuses. Turkey must be reprimanded for its crimes.

As long as there are Armenians, Turkey will not escape the memory of its injustices. My generation is evidence to this, for we have truth on our side.

SHAKING THE FOUNDATION

A country built on immigrants rejects its own

by Bindu Mathur

If only Canada's native people had the idea first.

If they did, they could have imposed a tax on every adult newcomer to this country.

After all, Canada is a country of immigrants, and according to the federal government, "permanent residence is a right that should be paid for by those who receive it."

This is the idea behind the $975 right of landing fee, or head tax, introduced in the Liberal government's most recent budget.

The news of the head tax has had a profound effect on those Canadians who hail from immigrant backgrounds. For them, the issue has nothing to do with money. They have already come and settled here in Canada. The issue is the larger message the tax sends out to immigrants and descendants of immigrants. Many of them feel the idea that newcomers to Canada should pay to live here ignores the contributions they or their families have made to our society. They feel the "right of landing" fee undermines their position in our country's multicultural mosaic.

photo by Justin Rochefort

Jaleel Sidiqui and his son Jamal

"When you think about it at first it doesn't really affect you," says Jaleel Siddiqui, 28, who emigrated from Pakistan when he was a child.

"But if you dig deeper there's a message there. You're looked at as an immigrant and as someone who should pay money to be here."

Siddiqui, is editor of Horizons, a monthly newsletter for South Asian youth. He first heard about the tax on the nightly news.

"I remember thinking about Sergio Marchi's story of his father first arriving from Italy and getting a job right after landing at the airport," says Siddiqui. "Well if his Dad came now he'd have to pay the head tax. I wonder how he would have felt."

Efi Gavaki, director of Concordia's Centre for Community and Ethnic Studies came to Canada from Greece in 1967. Gavaki feels the tax is contrary to the ideals of democracy and equality.

"It goes against every economic and social value of our society," says Gavaki. "It's a black blot in Canadian immigration policy. Future students will study the head tax as a big boo-boo in our history.

Gavaki also fears the head tax will create an opposition in society between those who have a right to be here and those who have to pay for that right. And those immigrants who came before the landing fee was imposed may be seen as having not contributed, she says.

• • •

It's two days before St. Patrick's Day and Concordia's Irish Society is having its cultural day in the Mezzanine of the Hall building. But there's been a mix-up with the booking of the floor. The Irish Society is sharing the event with the Palestinian Students Association.

Along with Irish stew, soda bread and orange, green and white shortbread, there's falafel and pita with strains of Middle Eastern music in the background.

Julie Ross, 29,social coordinator of the Irish Society, says she was shocked when she heard the news of the head tax.

"I find it an insult to all of us and to what this country is," she says.

Ross' maternal grandfather fled Ireland in 1923 during the Easter uprising when he was 17. He stowed away on a fishboat because he couldn't afford the fare to come here. Ross says all her grandfather had with him were four crystal glasses and some silverware, which she inherited and keeps in her home.

"I can't help thinking that if my grandfather had to pay a head tax, he would have had to sell those belongings."

She feels the landing fee is an insult to the contribution that immigrants have made to this country..

"It's an example of the lack of respect that we have for immigrants," says Ross. "We can't just pin them like cattle."

Across from the Irish Society's display tables, twenty-year-old Hani Saadi stands behind a table covered with books about Palestine and Arab culture. Saadi, an engineering student, came here with his parents and brother and sister from the United Arab Emirates in 1991. It was at the time of the Gulf War and his family came here looking for the security and opportunity that Canada had to offer.

Saadi feels the head tax is unfair and discriminatory.

"We come here looking for equality and then we're treated differently," he says.

Saadi feels it is unfair that immigrants should be penalized for Canada's current economic woes.

"It's like saying that it's immigrants' fault that the government fell behind," he says.

Although both Ross and Saadi denounce Canada for imposing the head tax, both hail Canada's policy of multiculturalism and the opportunity they have to keep their own cultures and customs.

"It's not like in the U.S. where you lose your identity in the melting pot," says Saadi

But where does the idea that immigrants must pay for the right to be Canadian fit in with the country's official policy of multiculturalism?

Caroline Knowles is a professor of sociology at Concordia and has done research on racism in Canada and Britain. She feels there is a contradiction in Canada's immigration and multicultural policies.

"Multiculturalism takes no account of positions of power in society. The fact is that we can force people to pay a head tax," she says.

Knowles likens the head tax to selling places in Canada and feels that there are other qualities we should acknowledge when deciding immigration policy.

"To base it on money is undemocratic and excludes those coming from third world countries," she adds.

Despite the government's reasoning that those who benefit from programs should have to pay for them, Knowles feels the head tax is a form of "polite racism."

Let The Others Pay

Not all settled immigrants feel that the head tax is racist.

Richard Weiss, 27, is a masters student in Educational Studies at Concordia. Weiss' father spent time in a Nazi concentration camp in Czechoslovakia and came to Canada in 1948. His mother was in hiding in France during the war.

Weiss denounces the head tax and feels it is part of a right-wing reactionary movement which uses immigrants as scapegoats for the country's economic troubles.

"They're looking for someone to blame, so who do they blame? Immigrants are the most visible and easiest to blame," says Weiss.C

Weiss says his parents could have never come here if they had to pay a landing fee.

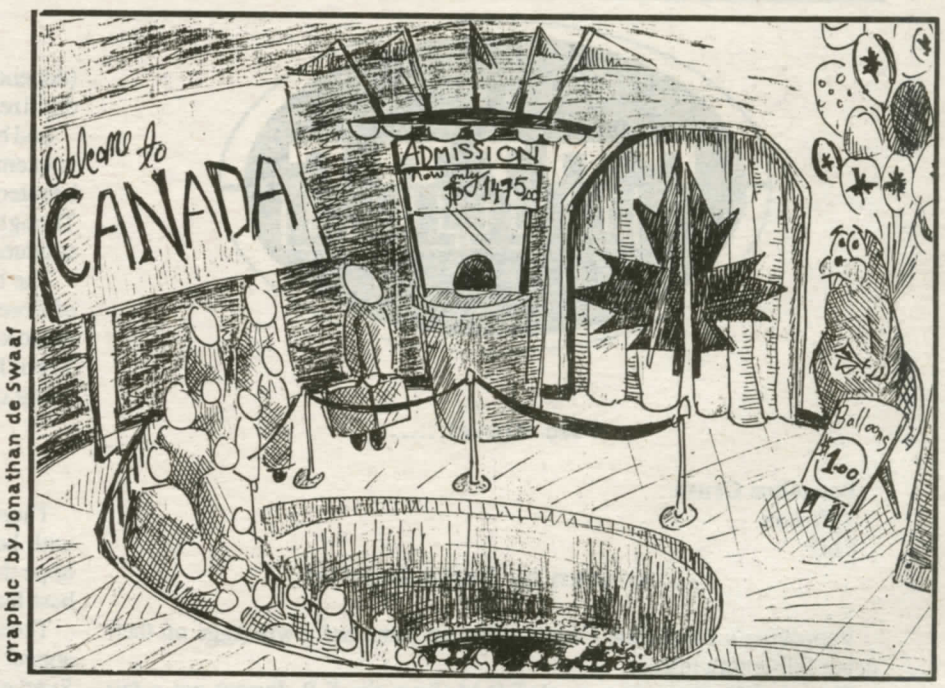
But when Weiss discusses the issue of immigration with his parents he is shocked by their reactions.

"My parents say other immigrants aren't pulling their weight and they feel that they are abusing the system. My parents are usually very liberal," he says. "It's unbelievable to hear what they're saying especially considering their backgrounds."

The attitude gap between generations in immigrant families is not uncommon. It is easy to assume that anyone with an immigrant background would be quick to oppose a policy like the head tax. But sociology professor Caroline Knowles points out that the immigrant community is not a homogenous in it's attitudes and opinions.

Immigrants are diverse with range of socio-economic backgrounds and age differences. Knowles feels there might be a difference in perception of the head tax by those immigrants who are more assimilated.

continued page 10



graphic by Jonathan de Swaaf

New immigration rules

•The Right of Landing Fee applies to all immigrant and refugee applying for permanent residence who are at least 19 years of age.

•The fee is levied in addition to an already existing application fees. This processing fee is $500 for each adults, and $100 for each dependant under age 19.

•Loans are available to newcomers that cannot pay the bill immediately, but they must demonstrate the ability to repay the loan.

Loosen your bowels with funk

by Bindu Mathur

Enema: *noun.* insertion of liquid through the anus into the rectum to expel its contents.
Public Enema: *band.* a public cleansing of the ears administered by a funk collective guaranteed to free the funk from deep within your soul.

When **Public Enema** arrived on the scene last year they were a welcome respite for those of us tired of Montreal's souless music scene.

Since then the group has evolved and its audience has grown. The band has filled the house every Tuesday night at Voltaire since last fall.

So what has the crowds flocking out to carouse, bump and grind on a school night anyway? It's the band's energetic and unique blending of soul, funk, jazz, blues and hip hop with venerable influences like **James Brown, George Clinton, The Staple Singers, and Sly and the Family Stone**.

All of it makes for a truly infectious sound; and its being heard. Public Enema has even been nominated for Hip Hop/Rap/Funk artist of the year in Montreal's own first annual independent industry music awards (better known as the Mimi's').

"Get out and vote," says Public Enema's frontman and guitarist **Mark Robertson**. "It's OK to vote more than once in this election."

Robertson first started dropping acid jazz last spring with bassist **Peter Santiago** at Royale and Opera. The band has seen a few players come and go, but the current Public Enema posse boasts some truly strong performers.

"It's really a collective improvisation," says Robertson. "We do some more strict arrangements, but mostly we like to keep it loose."

When members of Public Enema take a solo, you can count on some quality playing, without the pretension.

Whether it's saxophonist **Ian Babb** playing the funkiest flute I've ever heard, **Max Sansalone** on his smooth mellow drums, Santiago pounding out the bass, or Robertson laying down riffs that really get you below the waist, the band always delivers a quality performance.

DJ Eric San is on the turntables, and not just to give the band a hip hop look. San's scratchings integrate a groove into the sound and also comes up with classic sounds from the archives. (The most recent being the deliverance speech from Pulp *Fiction.*).

Singer **Dessy Dileuro** started jamming with the band late last year. Dileuro has one of those voices I confess to always having wanted when I grew up. Her classy soul style fits like a dream with the band's more raw funk energy. (And she can rap too!)

All that said, don't be thinking Public Enema is just another acid jazz band with a slick, sanitized sound. Their sound has a definite grunge feel—not grunge as in pasty teenagers who can't play music, but grunge as in pure, raw energy that delivers the funk with a capital F.

"Funk music really came from the street," says Robertson. "And that's what's missing from a lot of acid jazz."

The jazz in Public Enema takes hold in the way the band approaches the creative process. "The improv and playing live gives a really distinct dynamic and that's really an essential element of jazz music," says Robertson.

Public Enema's live funk jam has now been captured on audio tape. The tape was recorded live at one of their gigs at Voltaire. Robertson said they wanted to preserve the integrity of the live sound they've been honing over the last few months and give it to the consumer, without any electronic trickery.

Half of the six songs are original and fans will be happy to know they can enjoy the original funk sound in a, well, safer environment.

All of this from a band named **Public Enema**? Yes, well the name started out as a joke but, unfortunately, it's a joke that's gotten a bit out of hand. So the band is on a hunt for a new name and Robertson says they're open to suggestions—in fact there could be a prize for whoever comes up with the winning name. So bring in your entries to the next Public Enema gig near you.

Public Enema will play at Mediamatic, the benefit for Mediatribe Concordia's undergraduate journal of communication studies, at the Stornaway Gallery, 1405 St. Alexandre on Friday, March 24 10 pm.

Tickets are $4 in advance, $5 at the door and are available at the Bryan Building or Cafe X.

The band is also proud to announce the launching of their debut cassette, to be held at Purple Haze on Thursday, March 30th.

A nev

by Dan Mucha

You can hear the train arriving at the Metro station. Mixed in is the sound of rolling dice and roaring thunder. Suddenly, Paul McCartney sings a Beatles' favorite tune, Plume Latraverse strokes his guitar, and Bill Murray recites punchlines from the movie Groundhog day.

This is what Martin Levesque and Francis Lafortune call electroacoustics: a mixture of recorded drum and harpsichord tracks and samples of any other types of music, sounds and monologues. If you throw in five live dancers improvising to the beat, you see and hear the latest attempt to push the boundaries of electroacoustics.

Concordia music students Levesque and Lafortune defined this art form with their performance **Cluj: A l'os** last Thursday night at the Concordia Concert Hall.

Traditionally, electroacoustics combine electronic music with "musique concrète" (pre-recorded sounds); and present it in its final form on tape or disc.

But this dynamic duo give the art a twist.

Cluj's Levesque and Lafortune not only add non-traditional elements into the mix, but also augment the tape

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Various Artists
Cupid's Revenge: The world's m
Continuum/MCA

by anus

It could just be me, but this seems l
bands for the audience en masse. Ne
on **Cupids Revenge** leaves one slam
room.

All waves of punk are, in fact, re
tunes, *Your Pretty Face is Going to H*
with the likes of
men's *If You Love Them on Fire*, a
song. Brit-fuzz
Buzzcocks are
Just Lust. The
rama take on that
from the movie
Nights and the pro-
add that born-
melody by. **The**
my Face Stevie
for the Stevie
sure.

Classic tracks
by **Black Flag** and **Circle Jerks**
splendiforous Sony-and-Cher surpri
hee-haw the next time you hear UB4
bad dose of belated Valentine punk;
're a die-hard vinyl freak.

SPINS

Two Views.....

Econoline Crush
Affliction
EMI

...as seen by Daria Gamliel

Vancouver's **Econoline Crush** offers up some hefty wreckage on their debut full-length release.

Though their first video single*T.D.M* (from the E.P. *Purge*) got a fair amount of airplay on MuchMusic, *Affliction* is even *better* than the band's first offering.

Boasting sharp production by **Front Line Assembly**'s **Rhys Fulber**, Econoline Crush's sophomore effort is even more aurally stimulating than their earlier material. The music assaults or titlates the listener's ears (depending who the listener is), with an aggressive mix of loud guitars and digitized havoc.

Led by **Trevor Hurst**'s captivating and occasionally distorted vocals, this is exemplified in the hypnotic chorus of *Blood in the River*. However, the beauteous racket subsides momentarily for slower songs like *Close* and *Lost*. Though there is still a hint of sound-layering, the effects are somewhat subdued, making these tunes more straight-forward.

The band's industrial leanings are similar to those of **Ministry** and **Sons of Freedom**, and the closing track *Affliction* is very **Nine Inch Nails**. Lonely piano keys behind yearning whispers and sampled machinery noises emulate **Trent Reznor**. Hurst evn has Reznor's breathy vocal delivery down to an art.

But don't take my word for it...

...as seen by James Dufault

These fellows will be bringing their act to Metropolis, Friday March 31 with headliners **Grim Skunk, Furnaceface** and **Project 9**. At any rate, I hope their show is better than their album, which is a chore to listen to—its best feature being the lovely blue vinyl onto which it's pressed.

Technically, the album is good, but unfortunately, just sounds boring. Riffs appear to be straight **Metallica**, but they never build into any kind of climax. Synthesizers and keyboards lend a slight industrial touch but they never find a groove or a bass line that leaves you possessed to dance. It seems like these guys know how to play their instruments, but whether or not it is the production or just the music itself, it simply lacks soul.

A friend of mine who also heard the band's music tells me she feels it has no "depth." Whatever that means, traffic is a more exciting listen

w twist on electroacoustic

(mixed for eight speakers) with live music. Levesque on percussion, and Lafortune on harpsichord, they add their music to the pre-recorded mix, and then have live improvisational dancers from Concordia to top it off.

The piece consists of a series of segments which run the gamut from jarring intensity to a serene yet uneasy quiet.

"We like to create situations that are impossible," offered Lafortune, explaining the aesthetics behind the combinations of sounds used in the performance. We mix sounds that you would never hear together in real life...impossible, or very unlikely."

Like many of the other sounds employed during the evening, distortion and other electronic manipulations were used to transform the music into something new.

Also added to the mix were snatches of what the duo call "radio art" (commonly known as sampling): the use of words and/or music from other pre-recorded sources. Samples used ranged from the music of The Beatles and Plume Latraverse to a quote from Bill Murray in Groundhog Day and the exercise tapes of Dominique Michel.

As if this wasn't enough, the visual counterpoint of the dancers provided a riveting addition to the sonic assault.

"We wanted to make this unlike every other electroacoustic concert," explained Lafortune. "We collected a wide variety of sounds and used every technique and method we could think of...this is the result of two people learning and working for two years and then putting it all together."

Look for another electroacoustic performance from Levesque and Lafortune, coming to Concordia sometimes in May.

Swaying to a distorted rhythm

by Ingrid Hein

The contorted bodies of dancers Dana Gingras and Noam Gagnon were like clockwork machinery ticking to a rhythm distorted and dreamy in a dark setting.

The Holy Body Tattoo dance company performed at Musee D'Art Contemporain last week. Their performance, called Poetry and Apocalypse, is a unique dance which expresses frustration and humility in a world gone mad.

The dancer's sometimes jerky movements, yet passionate embraces relate a story of life and feeling which can only be expressed in dance. Through repetition in movement, perfect synchronicity in segments, and sweaty passion, the dancers tell a chilling story of reaching out and being lost in a world where we are, in the end, alone.

Gagnon and Gingras have been working together for eight years, and have been performing Poetry and Apocalypse for just over a year. The piece has evolved over time, but continues to allow for some improvisational work during the performance.

In addition to dance, the performance incorporates live percussion, but there is no drum kit side-stage. Instead, a large barrel-like object is smashed at off-beat, peak moments, adding to the tension and nihilistic contortions of the dance. A "drummer" on each side of the stage, the room echoes with an angry industrial rhythmic thrashing. In addition to the barrel, there is a timpani-like percussion instrument and other pieces of metal are bashed, creating sharp and echoing tones.

The climax of the performance occurs when Gingras removes her shirt. With her back to the audience, she begins contorting and shaping the 500 million muscles (she had incredible muscles) of her back, creating the illusion of alien creatures, and incredible passionate possibilities. The house lighting shadowed her muscles to help animate the illusion, making it seem like a well-produced high-quality computer image. But her back was real.

The Holy Body Tattoo is truly a unique performance, and leaves a long-lasting imprint on ones mind, emotion, and mood.

ıost romatic punk songs

ıska Garcia

like another attempt at repackaging punk evertheless, the selection of punk ballads mming with one's loved ones in the living

represented here. **Iggy and the Stooges** *Hell* and *I Need Somebody*, are served up

The Dead Milk-*Somebody, Set* campy, skanky pop fave, **The** also here with **Vandals** punk-o-famous track Grease, *Summer* ducer just had to again oi punk **Rotters**, *Sit on Nicks*. Hmm-Not Nicks fans for

are also dished up

ks, The Dickies and **The Dictator's** rise *I Got You Babe* that will make you 340's less-than-lame-o cover of it. Not a ; but not a rarity or collector's item if you

Bettie Serveert
Lamprey
Matador/Atlantic

by Daria Gamliel

If the mid-semester blues are dragging you down, this album may serve as a backdrop. Being the self-depreciating humanoids we are, we sometimes like to wallow in our own sorrows. If this is the case, the moodier tracks on *Lamprey* may help.

The melancholic *D. Feathers* gives an interesting motto of hope even in its depressing onset: *I can't trust the things I do/For I can only trust in me/ and if the whole world should drop dead/I'll build my own inside my head.* However, the more upbeat songs work as a pick-me-up without being so syrupy as to induce vomiting.

The Dutch quartet bring together these two facets of human emotions to create a solid listening experience. The first single *Something so Wild*, doesn't do the band justice, but *Keepsake* showcases vocalist **Carol van Dijk**'s unique manner of switching intensities between songs. One moment she's folky and sweety plaintive in *Tell me, Sad*, and the next she's a wailing brat in *Totally Freaked Out*.

Backed by a competent group of musicians (guitarist **Peter Visser**, bassist **Herman Bunskoeke** and drummer **Berend Dubbe**), Bettie Serveert's followup to previous release *Palomine*, is more fun than Amsterdam's Red Light District.

Ron Sexsmith
Ron Sexsmith
Interscope

by James Dufault

Pleasant and mellow. **Ron Sexmith's** debut sounds a lot like Daniel Lanois vocally, reminding one of Lanois' overall sound consisting of well mixed arrangements of a variety of eclectic instruments: accordion, cello, xylophone and creative percussion.

It's not surprising that Lanois actually produced one of the best songs on the album, "There's a Rhythm." Lanois also did the sleeve photography, which instead of making Sexsmith look like a sensitive, pensive guy, makes him look like a pedophile who needs a bath and a haircut.

Despite this somewhat disturbing cover, this album is pretty solid although it takes itself a bit too seriously -printing some mediocre lyrics on the sleeve, "The world looks so much brighter when you believe in every word. Now I am holding on to all those years like a tear before it falls unheard."

This isn't a club scene band that managed to record but a slick production of a good singer/guitarist.

This album is recorded by Tchad Blake and produced by Mitchell Froome, with assistance from many including Lanois. Despite some overproduction, it retains a very soulful and folksy quality that makes it ideal for Sunday afternoon listening.

Although not outstanding, this album is above mediocrity and its songs are consistent throughout. Sexsmith would be a great guest at a cottage party if he brought along his band for the campfire. Awful cover not withstanding, the album is a good buy.

tax *nothing new to Chinese community*

continued from page 7

"There may be a convergence in thinking between the general population and more settled immigrants on the impact of newer immigrants," says Knowles.

Weiss feels his parents have been conditioned by the media, which he feels accents the negative impact of immigrants on our society.

Efi Gavaki of the Centre for Community and Ethnic Studies explains the attitudes of some more settled immigrants.

"They say `Once my positon is secure, let the others pay.' It stems from ignorance and circulating myths." she says.

A History of Head Tax

The words "head tax" resonate more profoundly for Chinese Canadians. From 1885 until 1923 immigrants coming from China were charged $500, which at that time could buy two houses. From 1923 to 1947 Canada passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, which completely barred any Chinese from immigrating to Canada.

William Dere is a member of the executive of the Head Tax Redress Committee for the Chinese Canadian National Council. His grandfather and father both paid the Chinese head tax to come to Canada. Dere and his mother weren't allowed to join his father here until 1949 because of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Dere made the film "Moving A Mountain" about how the head tax affected his family. The film played at the Toronto Film Festival in September of 1993.

He says the Liberal government made a promise to the community that they would receive a redress of the racist head tax. But in the middle of December of 1994, Sheila Finestone, secretary of state for the Ministry of Multiculturalism, announced that there would be no compensation for Chinese Canadians affected by the head tax.

Dere feels that one of the reasons the government dismissed the claims of the Chinese was because it was already planning to implement the right of landing fee. And although this time the tax does not single out any one group, Dere says if the government had granted redress to the Chinese, it would have been admitting that the idea of a head tax is wrong.

"When I first heard about the tax, everything fell into place," he says.

Dere calls the head tax "an attack on multiculturalism." He worries the tax will affect the self-esteem of immigrants who are already here.

"With the head tax, you are being fingered indirectly by the government. It's saying that you're different and you should have paid to be here."

Armenian

continued from page 6

Niziblian. "For 600 years we were part of the Ottoman Empire. Now Armenia (received its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991) is 29,000 square kilometres. At the turn of the century, our homeland was 300,000 square kilometres."

Niziblian added that he had hoped that the end of the cold war would lead the United States' recognition of the Armenian genocide as it would no longer consider Turkey a strategic ally.

"So far that has not happened. One of our biggest supporters right now is Moscow," he said.

Still on uncertain footing

Although the Armenian government fully endorses any commemorative activities, it is reluctant to pressure the Canadian government for acknowledgment and the Turkish government for compensation.

Garnik Nanagoulian, Attaché d'Affaires at the Armenian Embassy in Ottawa, which opened on March 1, said that the Armenian government is organizing an international symposium on the 1915 genocide in the capital of Armenia.

"There will be many events," he said, "We will pay tribute to the victims of the genocide.

"A special monument will be erected in their memory," he added.

The Embassy also plans to give special Armenian citizen status to any survivors living in other countries.

But, according to Nanagoulian, Armenia is not yet demanding an apology or retribution from Turkey.

"When Armenia acquired its independence, we inherited some historical questions and problems," Nanagoulian said. "But we decided to maintain certain principles of foreign policy, namely good relations with all our neighbours, including Turkey."

"In our diplomatic relations with Turkey, there will be no preconceptions. Genocide will eventually be on the agenda. But only when we understand each other better can we begin to discuss what we have inherited," he added.

Apo Niziblian said that this friendly alliance with Turkey is based on Armenia's financial precariousness.

"Independent Armenia is in a very bad economic situation," he said, "That is why it is extending its hand to Turkey."

But, according to Niziblian, Turkey's friendship might depend on Armenia's willful loss of memory.

"Turkey as a good neighbour might mean forgetting the genocide issue," he said.

"Armenia's Minister of Education just banned the teaching of genocide in grade school. There is very strong pressure to forget," added Niziblian.

A last hope

Niziblian is quick to point out that, although Armenians support the Armenian government because they understand its precarious political situation, they are determined to not forget the genocide or the territorial issue.

"We have already lost an entire generation. We cannot afford to lose anymore," said Niziblian.

He stresses that the 1915 genocide affects Armenians profoundly.

"The diaspora is a consequence of the genocide. There are Armenians all over the world. It is something we live every day," he said.

Garine Hovsepian echoes his sentiments.

"When one million and a half people are murdered and deported from their lands, it affects generations to come," she said.

"Genocide stunts growth. They struck at our politicians, writers, poets and intellectuals. They cut us from the root," added Hovsepian. "The whole growth and evolution of a people was stopped."

According to her, it is important for Armenians to obtain an apology for the genocide while it is still vivid in their memory.

"The more we wait, the more the excuse can be used that 'it's so far away'," she said. "It is very important to get these steps taken as fast as possible."

If you are interested in signing the petition that will be presented to the Canadian government, you can do so in front of H-110 where the Concordia Armenian Students Association is holding a display table. For more information about the walkathon to Ottawa, phone the Armenian Youth Organization at 331-6548.

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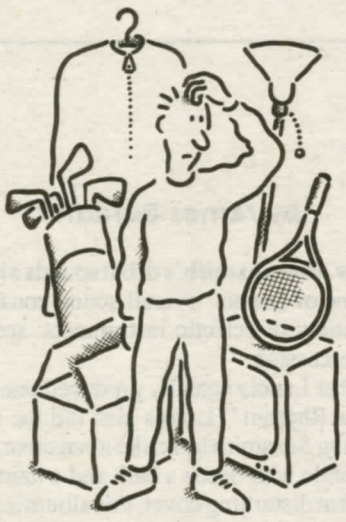

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The Link welcomes letters to the editor. We are committed to printing all letters which are not racist, sexist or homophobic and are signed. Letters should include a telephone number, be typed and 400 words or less. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Anonymity can be arranged with the editor.

Bathroom graffiti is expression, not "dirty"

I thought I'd write and clue you in, on the mystery gender and/or sexual orientation of the Biftek graffiti you quoted in you article.

It was me! I am a woman, a dyke, a poet, and a sometime bathroom graffiti artist.

First of all, this was not meant to be an aggressive or offensive piece of writing, I write quite a bit of erotica, and I tend to be pretty graphic.

Is it the word fuck that the patrons/staff found so offensive? Or is it the patrons/staff concept of lesbians fucking? Yes, oh yes it is possible to fuck without a penis being involved. Surprise!

If I had used the words "make love" or "have sex", would it have make less of an impact?

I don't know why the staff should be surprised that a lesbian would/could write that. Graphic sexual dialogue is not just a male domain. (Or a heterosexual one either.) Knowing that a lesbian wrote it, does that change anything? Make it better or worse?

To that woman who wanted to beat me up and call me "a stupid dyke." -Why? The sex described in that short passage was not rape or forced entry or anything like that. Why am I a "stupid dyke", for wanting to please my partner with my finger, and then go down on her? Jealous, you're not getting any? Internalized homophobia? Externalized homophobia? H.L.I. member at large?

"Fuck" isn't always a dirty work. Talking "dirty" is a valid form of expression. As long as it's not misused, or hurtful. This piece was not meant to hurt or degrade anyone, I'm not sorry if I offended anyone. At least this was a welcome break from the misogynist panderings, so common in bathrooms. I salute the other bathroom scrawlers, those who claim the space for intelligent discourse, information, and artistic license. All I need now, is a black marker, reclaim the word "fuck" in contest. Talking "dirty" is a real turn on, to some, try it sometime maybe you'll like it.

H. Leah Libin

Showing ID to use shuttle bus still an issue

I take no pleasure in saying that I told you so, but I did.

The power grab of the transportation department, to force all students to show identity cards, has turned ugly with a student being beaten for not showing his ID card. Yet those people of high moral character who protest my denouncing of the same practice last semester are nowhere to be seen. Do they not care that one of their fellow students was attacked? Or do the real world and the harsh truth that occur in it give them pause from being simply debaters in the letter columns of the newspaper. What hypocrites!

This issue is not dead. I will not stop from protesting the illegal power grab by the transportation to demand that we show ID when boarding the shuttle. Unfortunately as there is no rector for Concordia, or at least a person who answers to that name, I will wait until the new rector is named before I approach this person to control the transportation department.

To avoid any other student being attacked by over zealous security force of Concordia, let us be clear as to the regulations concerning you ID. Any person working at Concordia can ask you to show your ID. You must do so. Security, the transport department and many others can ask you for your ID. You must show it or leave Concordia property. The following protocol when they ask for ID. What is also then protocol is for an incident report to be filled out by security each time they ask for ID. This is your right . Insist upon it. If the transportation department demands your ID, then demand that they fill out an incident report for each demanded ID.

Robert Fortin

Photo cutline error skews reporting

Paul Hainsworth's article "Con U prepares to protest H.L.I.," in the March 7 edition of the link, contains an incorrect cutline, which can be misleading. The photo was purported to be of Msgr. Neil Willard, vicar-general of the Archdiocese of Montreal (Roma Catholic); it was, in fact, a phot of Fr. Matthew Habiger, president of Human Life International, of Maryland. The photo was taken at a Feb. 28 press conference in Montreal called by H.L.I., which the article did not report. Neither Willard nor the Archdiocese of Montreal were officially represented at the press conference, where this photo was taken, so it's difficult to know why the error occurred.

The archdiocese was not represented at the press conference because, although the group's membership includes a large number of Catholics, H.L.I. is not an official Catholic organization. Nevertheless, as the Link reported, Willard noted that Catholics in H.L.I. should, if they so request be allowed to have mass celebrated. This does not, however, mean that the archdiocese endorses all the strategies, positions or tactics of the group.

This additional information can contribute, it is hoped to the balanced reporting which the Link seeks to provide to its readers.

Eric Durocher
Communications
Archdiocese of Montreal

ed. note: the Link regrets the error of the incorrect cutline.

thank you for reading the Link

Rally 'round the turbot boys

Comment

by Aaron Marchand

The first thing I learned in my first year is to look at political decision and to figure out who is benefiting from it. The recent dispute over "the protection of Canada's fish stocks" coincides perfectly with this idea. Brian Tobin, Liberal minister of fisheries is throwing Canada a (forgive the pun) red herring.

Spring is here and this year it is Canada flags that are popping up all over fishing towns across eastern Canada. The Liberal government has finally found a way to sway the uncommitted separatists back to a strong Canada. No one is paying attention to the flesh eating disease or Bouchard anymore. We have a bigger problem now, palm sized Turbot are being taken away from us by those godless Spaniards. Brian Tobin has quite rightly saved Canada by illegally sending ships into international waters to capture the boat and prosecute the Spanish captain for his errant ways. Granted, the fish stocks do need protecting, but it seems to me that a heavily armed fish protection patrol fleet is somewhat excessive. Why didn't Canada take aerial photographs of Spanish ships in Canadian waters? Why didn't Canada take this case to international court instead of just whining to the European Union? The answer is quite simple, to drag attention away from the separatists just before their moment of glory. Besides who has the time to spend worrying about Mike Harcourt's budget when Canada is involved in an International dispute? The minister of justice Allan Rock has made the issue that much more tantalizing for us by announcing to Canada just wait until we open up the hold of the Estai and we will all see what's inside. We were all itching to see the tiny Turbot trapped in the illegal nets when it was dragged up from the bottom of the ocean for Canadian television. Thank god, if it wasn't for the Liberals and rootin' tootin' Tobin, we would all be worrying about needless things like the Bloc's referendum or how the budget has all but taken away social programs. Who needs health care and education anyway? We seem to have cashed in the important issues for an O.J. Simpson case of our own. If you think about it logically, how many people do you know who eat Turbot on a regular basis? The answer is obviously none as they have all been fished away by the Spanish. This fishing dispute has been blown way out of proportion by the cabinet ministers on purpose. If Canada truly cared about our Roaming fish from the Grand Banks, it wouldn't have ruined its case in international court by illegally boarding and restraining a Spanish ship. In one year from now, when the media has stopped pumping this issue, and Canadians are wondering what happened to education and health care, remember our friend the Turbot because that's what we exchanged if for. But then again maybe I'm blessed because I don't like fish.

The Link Elections
March 24 @ 4:00pm in H-649

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Barney Hynes
Jennifer Ditchburn
Carol McQueen
Mitchell Amihod
Heather Ednie
Julien Saucier
Marie-Chantal Côté
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James Mejia
Deana Beltsis
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Paul Hainsworth
Connie Wu
Justin Rochefort
Daria Gamliel
Alice O'Brien
Charlene Nero

One issue away from voting rights

Derek Fong
Phil Carpenter

Two issues away from voting rights

Reid Cooper
Tracy Bohan
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technology and culture
march 28

Refusing to choose between East and West

by Nathan Whitlock

Growth— be it artistic, emotional, parasitic, or otherwise— most often occurs unheeded. The modus operandi of countless horror tales, this: that oozing, extraterrestrial, meteor-fluid silently gaining sinister hegemony over a farmer's field; pet baby alligators, having come flush up against the fickleness and brevity of novelty, mutating into blind, vengeful, albino beasts in the New York sewer system. Nature, in her wisdom, gave the caterpillar a cocoon to conceal the dramatic transformation from slug to sublime.

A similar transformation has occurred with Salman Rushdie. When last we saw him, Rushdie was disappearing into the protective cocoon of the Scotland Yard to escape the muscle-flexings of the mad-mullah Khomeini. The 'Rushdie Affair' was exhaustively covered, analyzed, discussed, and condemned, with several images of our hero arising— Rushdie-victim; Rushdie-antagonist; Rushdie-christ; Rushdie-devil; Rushdie-handy-symbol-of-free-speech; even Rushdie-everyman (witness the 'I am Salman Rushdie' buttons). Yet, still, a question: what of Rushdie-writer? Would he emerge the vengeful alligator or transplendent butterfly?

Finally, five years after Khomeini issued what novelist Ralph Ellison dubbed the "rather harsh review", Salman Rushdie has emerged with ***East, West,*** a stunning collection of nine, thematically-linked stories which simultaneously shed old skin and herald the new.

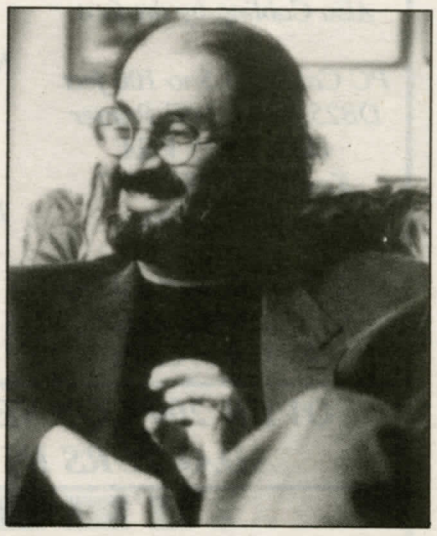
This is a book primarily concerned with exile and emigration— two areas with which Rushdie is intimately familiar— and the casualties, both physical and emotional, of the clash which occurs when two cultures stubbornly attempt to occupy the same space. Before striding into the twofold terrain of the book's title, Rushdie first separates the two eager complements/combatants and gives each their own section— *East* and *West*, respectively. So isolated, the two reveal their strengths and limitations.

Those familiar with the exuberant, acrobatic style of his novels may feel momentarily disoriented by the uncharacteristic restraint and deceptively simple language Rushdie employs in the first three stories of *East*. The voice of the storyteller has always resonated at the core of Rushdie's fiction, but never before has he written with such naked clarity, unadorned and stripped of all excess— no magic noses, no actors-turned-angels, no risky Koran-revisionism. This is not to say that Rushdie has become the boring, old naturalist (he has yet, and may he never). "The Prophet's Hair", with its secular money-lender, turned ultra-pious/obsessive by the discovery of a hair from Mohammed's scalp, is proof that, even when binding his pen to the earth, Rushdie's imagination flies unfettered.

It is *East*'s two other stories ("Good Advice is Rarer Than Rubies", "The Free Radio") which foretell something of the new Rushdie. Both stories fairly drip with a profound, human sadness— an element often obscured amidst the literary pyrotechnics of his earlier work.

After this reflective pause, we are rudely dragged through the mud of modernism in the book's second section, *West*. This is the land of 'art for art's sake'; where anti-heroes battle villians-on-the-side-of-the-angels; where *Hamlet* gets a hilarious, *Tristram Shandy*-esque retelling ("Yorick"); where spiritual transcendence is found in movie memorabilia ("At the Auction of the Ruby Slippers"). Where reality is stranger than fiction and vice versa. This is a slightly more familiar Rushdie, writing with an ambitious, impatient, digressive pen.

Despite the almost uniform excellence of the first six stories, the *East* and *West* sections are still only half done. The latter lacks the sadness and clarity of the former. The former, the ambition and imaginative abandon of the latter.



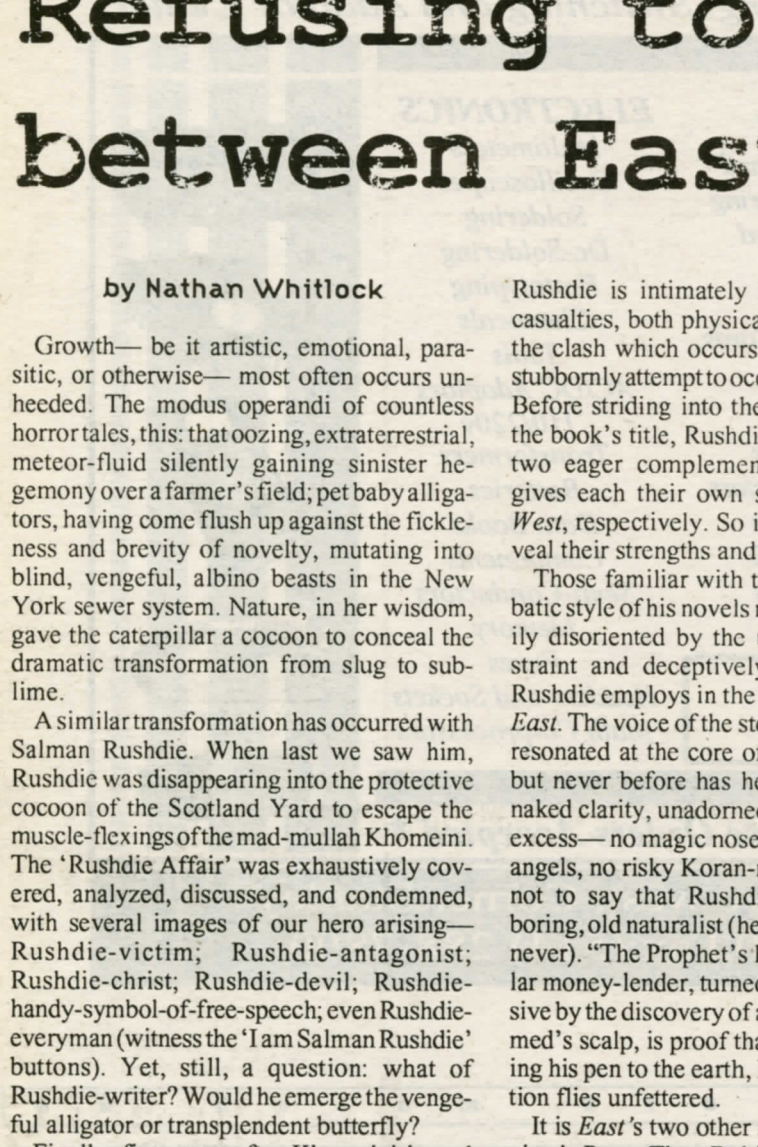
Author Salman Rusdie, still hanging with Hoffa, Elvis and UFOs.

This is the purpose of the book's final section, *East, West*. The theme is betrayed by the punctuation of the title: this is neither 'East/West', nor worse still, is it 'East-West'. In pulling the two together, Rushdie does not attempt to form a quaint, centaur-like hybrid, but allows the two to remain undiminished. Only grudgingly does one play yin to the other's yang. This is not unfamiliar territory for Rushdie (it was, after all, the whole point of ***The Satanic Verses***), yet where once he tried to paint the experiences of the geographically and culturally-displaced in dizzyingly-ambitious burlesque, he now faces the subject head-on, rendering it with astonishing verve, sincerity, and skill.

Each of the section's three previously unpublished stories are so powerful, as to leave the reader speechless— a welcome handicap for a reviewer. The trappings of 'magical-realism', once the very foundation of his work, have all but melted away, leaving only a heightened sense of imagery and observation. Even when hints of the burlesque doe creep in, they are so seamlessly woven into the story's structure as to go almost unremarked (the climax of "Chekov and Zulu", perhaps the most affecting moment of the book, occurs on the bridge of the 'Enterprise').

So, alligator or butterfly? After five years in the cocoon, Salman Rushdie has emerged a butterfly with alligator's teeth.

East, West
Salman Rushdie
Alfred A. Knopf Canada
$28.95



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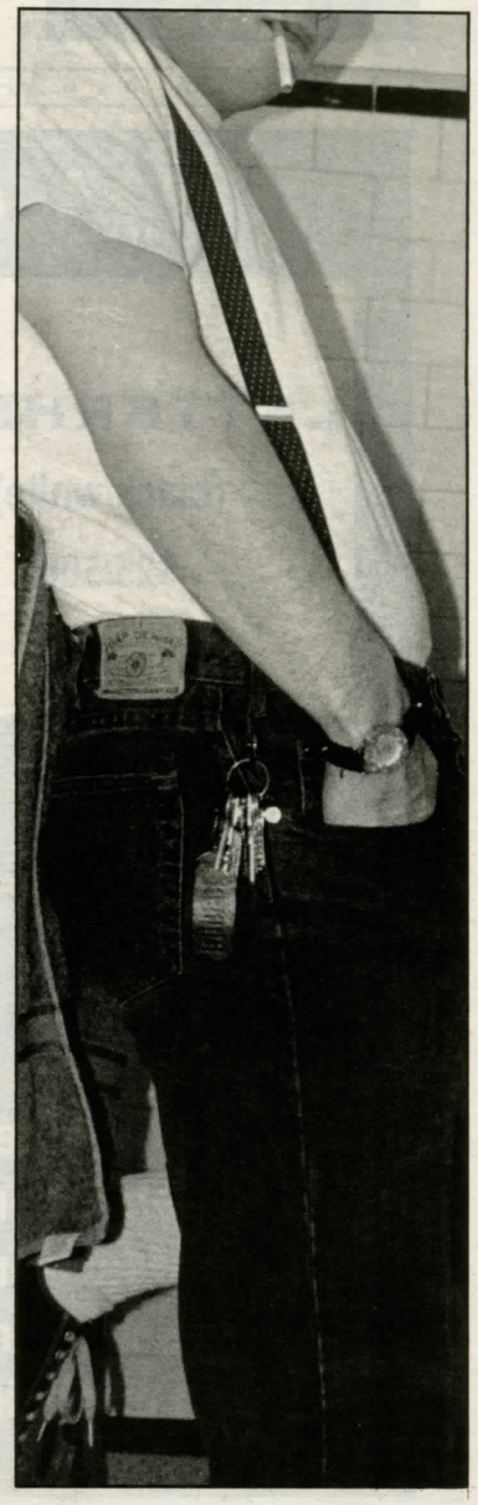
LiterarY Events

The Canada Council and FEWQ (Federation of English-language Writers of Quebec) presents a public reading of *Sanctuary of the Earth Goddess* by **Katherine Stenger Frey** and *The Ultimate Garden* by **Patricia Renee Ewing**. On Tuesday, March 21 from Noon-1:30pm , Simone de Beauvoir Institute, 2170 Bishop St. (Bring your lunch!) Readings are in English and admission is free.

Poetry reading by **John Asfour** Tuesday, March 21, 8pm at Double Hook Book Shop, 1235A Greene Ave., 932-5093.

Reading by **Endre Farkas** Monday night, March 27 at Bistro 4, 4040 St. Laurent Blvd.

Centre for Native Education presents **Dr. Mike Wilson** (Dept. of English Literature, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) *"The Politics of Native Literature"* on Monday, April 3, 1pm-3pm at Hall Building, Rm H-413. For more info: 848-7327.



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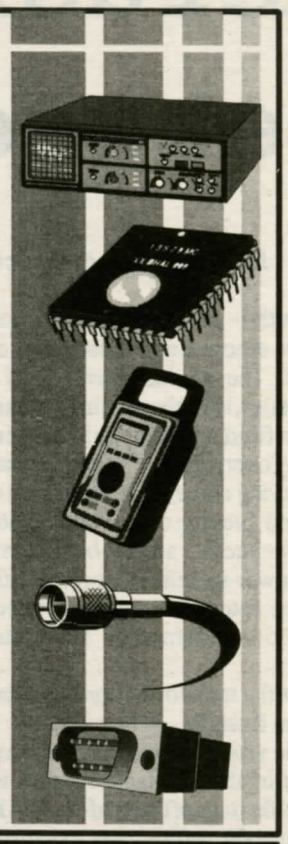

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CIAU final eight basketball championship

Stingers lose in national championship final

by Marie-Chantal Côté

After causing the first upset of the tournament, defeating the second-ranked Victoria Vikings and later defeating the sixth-ranked Toronto Blues, the Stingers came out short against the Alberta Golden Bears who managed to grab their second CIAU title in two years.

In the second game of the tournament, at the Metro Centre in Halifax on Friday afternoon, Concordia beat the Vikings, 79-75. Emerson Thomas led Concordia's scoring with 16 points, while Maxime Bouchard and Jean-Pierre Reimer both added 13. "Emerson Thomas played a good first game," explained head coach John Dore, in an interview.

Defeating the second-seeded team gave Concordia the extra energy to take on Toronto the following day.

Stingers' Maxime Bouchard exploded offensively, with 9 points in the first half and 17 in the second. He also added 4 of his team's 14 rebounds. "Maxime had a great game," said coach Dore. "He's the guy that got us going."

Reaching half-time with a 43-33 deficit, Concordia's offence led the team to a 75-65 victory.

And the team, which won its last national championship in 1990, was now scheduled to play in the final game, on Sunday afternoon.

But the team couldn't play as well as it did earlier in the tournament.

"Alberta has a very experienced team," explained Dore. "The chemistry that they had helped them a lot. They have a very mature team."

Early in the first half, Alberta's maturity helped them grab the lead which they held throughout the game. At the end of the first half, the Stingers tied the score 29-29, but it wasn't enough to destroy Alberta's momentum. At half-time, the Stingers were behind 37-32.

Golden Bears' Greg Badger led his team's aggressive offence with three quick three-pointers.

On the other hand, the Stingers were missing numerous shots including easy lay-ups and jump shots.

"We missed from 15 to 30 easy shots which we would have usually made," said Dore. "There was also a lack of focus with the defence."

During the second half, the Stingers were still struggling offensively with numerous missed shots, and couldn't come back in the game.

Maxime Bouchard and Jean-Pierre Reimer, who were both named on the tournament all-star team, led Concordia's scoring with 18 and 14 points.

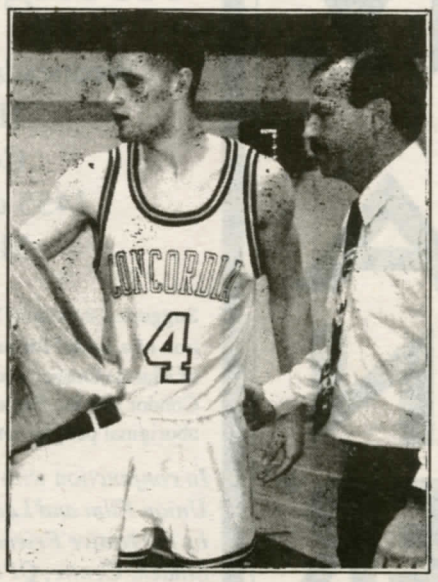
Reimer finished the tournament with a total of 41 points with 19 rebounds while Bouchard scored 57 including 14-for-19 from the line.

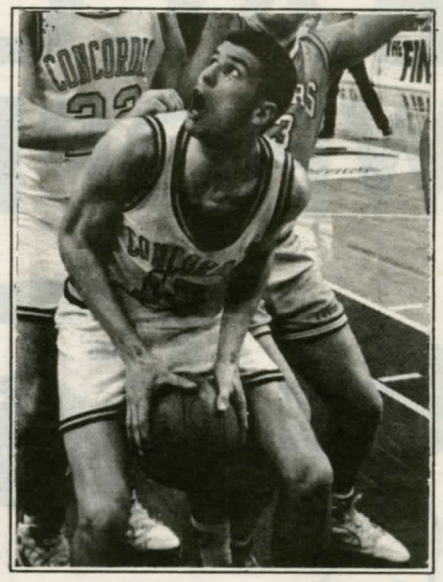
"They both had a very good tournament," said Dore about the two stars. "Jean-Pierre Reimer has gotten a lot better. Maxime should be an All-Canadian next year."

The tournament was All-Canadian Emerson Thomas' last career performance. Over his five years at Concordia, he has helped the team travel to Halifax five consecutive years.

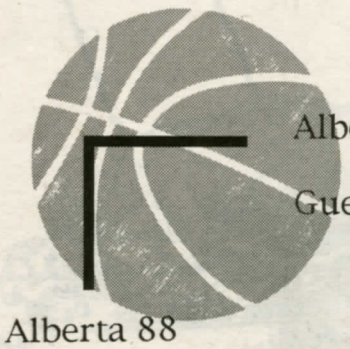
"Emerson Thomas has been great for Concordia and for the basketball program," concluded Dore.

CIAU-USIC





Concordia's Jean-Pierre Reimer (above) and Maxime Bouchard (right), who scored 41 and 57 points, respectively, throughout the tournament, were both named on the tournament All-Star team. They were joined by Murray Cunningham of Alberta, Rawle Philadelphia, of Cape Breton, and Eric Hinrichsen, of Victoria. Greg Devries, of Alberta was named Tournament MVP.



Concordia 79
•
Victoria 75

Concordia 75
•
Toronto 65

McMaster 87
•
Toronto 92

Gold

Alberta 84
•
Concordia 66

5th Place

Guelph 58 - Victoria 77

Alberta 91
•
Guelph 80

Alberta 88
•
Cape Breton 84

Brandon 73
•
Cape Breton 77

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Jack Donohue trophy (Best player of the championship):
Greg Devries, Alberta

Dr. Peter Mullins (Saxon rookie of the year):
Eric Hinrichsen, Victoria

Mike Moser trophy (Player of the year):
Keith Vassel, Brandon

Stuart W. Aberdeen trophy (Coach of the year):
Ken Olynyk, Toronto

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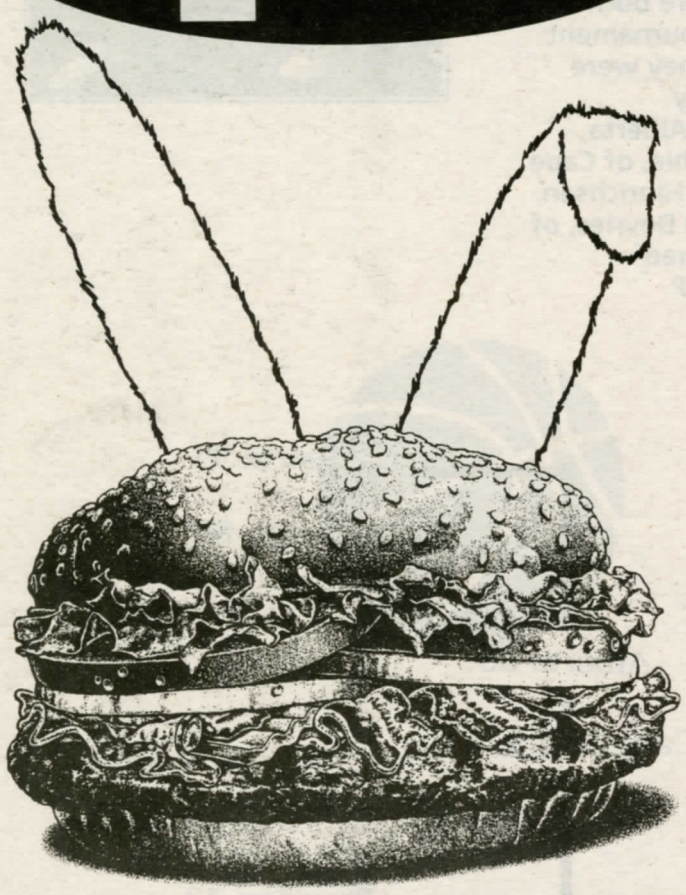

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Elections for the QPIRG Board of Directors will be held after the event. Advance polling will take place in the QPIRG of fice, 2130 Mackay, the following dates and times: Monday, Mar ch 20, 1-5 pm; Tuesday, March 21, 1-5 pm. For more information, call 848-7585.

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